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Preliminary Report

U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSION C455C flown 24 August 1965

DST-PR/BYE/65-13 13 September 1965

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Directorate of Science and Technology

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MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

Mission C455C,	_
	was over North Vietnam and south
and southeast China for approxi	mately two hours. It provided photo-
graphic coverage of 58 COMOR	targets, a new Chinese Communist
probable SAM site and a reacting	ng MiG-21 aircraft in flight. Chinese
Communist and North Vietname	se air warning facilities tracked the
U-2 continuously, except for tw	o relatively unimportant sectors of
the flight, over a period of alm	ost six hours. Two MiG-21 aircraft
failed in intercept attempts due to	o improper vectoring and/or evasive
action by the pilot. It has not be	been determined whether a "burst"
observed by the pilot was from	a guided air-to-air missile (AAM),
unguided rocket, or aircraft of	cannon. However, no hostile AAM
threats were reflected at this ti	me by the U-2's ECM systems, nor
were there any indications of su	rface-to-air (SAM) activity. System
13 reacted twice during the mis	sion, and was probably triggered, in
the Ning Ming area, by a FIRE C	AN radar and in the Swatow area by
a heavy concentration of S-band	radars.

See figure 1 (opposite) for the mission route and table 1 for ${\tt COMOR}$ targets covered.

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Preliminary Report		
U-2 RECONNAISSANCE MISSION C455C flown 24 August 1965		
BACKGROUND		
Mission C455C was flown over North Vietnam, as southeast China on 24 August 1965 to obtain high resographic coverage of COMOR targets. COMOR requires south China are for weekly photography of one-fourth targets and monthly coverage of all targets.	olution photo- rements for	
Launched from U-2 was serritory for approximately two hours and returned to The weather encountered by the pilot was better than Category III (broken clouds). Several deviations from coute were made by the pilot to evade attempted intercommunist MiG-21's.	the predicted n the planned	25X1
ANALYTICAL FINDINGS		
AIR DEFENSE REACTIONS		
Radar Tracking Chinese Communist and North warning facilities tracked the mission aircraft also about six hours, except for two relatively unimpedence outbound leg (the first, a 21-minute period over second, a 27-minute period in the middle of the South U-2 was tracked for a total distance of 1,950 nautical outed ground speed of 376 knots. Initially detected at after takeoff, the U-2 was identified at 0052Z as a hour craft at 65,600 feet; it was lost at 0630Z, 15 minute an altitude of less than 24,000 feet. The pilot's reserved.	most continuously ortant sectors on and the h China Sea). The l miles at a com- t 0029Z, 21 minutes ostile large-type ntes before landing,	25X1

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was in general agreement with of deviations, ranging from 2! in the flight sector between th ton area, attributable to the p for about an hour and another	5 to about 60 nautica e North Viet n amese ilot's taking continuo 30 minutes to reori	l miles, took place border and the Can- ous evasive action ent himself.	
feet for the mission, votes feet for the mission, votes feet. A roundicates that the Chinese Comparate in the sector between too area.	while the pilot report ugh comparison of re nmunist altitude repo	ted altitudes between eported altitudes in- orting was most ac-	25X1 25X1
Fighter Reactions Thermission, comprising at least were from the Ning Ming/Namindicated that at least three of that two MiG-21s were above the left, and one from the rightest which exploded 1,000 to the pilot evaluated the burst a insufficient evidence to indicaguided rocket, or cannon fire action or incorrect vectoring fective. No other fighter reacflight altitude.	eight aircraft. At lead-ning area, and their chese were MiG-21s. him and made passed ht-and that the one of 1,500 feet in front as an air-to-air missed the whether it was front of the fighters, neit	east five fighters or characteristics The pilot reported is at himone from on his left fired a of the U-2. Although sile (AAM), there is om an AAM, an unepilot's evasive her approach was ef-	
Surface-to-Air Missile R face-to-air missile (SAM) the China. A new probable SA-2-Airfield does not appear to he the photography; and no SAM-vicinity of the site.	reats to the mission -type site discovered ave reached operation	in North Vietnam or d adjacent to Ning Ming onal status, judging from	
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PHOTOGRAPHY

Preliminary interpretation of the photography indicates that the mission covered the following Communist Chinese and North Vietnamese targets: I missile site; 19 airfields; 127 military installations; 15 naval facilities; 10 electronics targets; and 10 industrial complexes. A total of 58 COMOR targets were covered (see table 2). Bonus targets were the new probable SAM site at Ning Ming Airfield and a MiG-21 aircraft in flight reacting to the mission. See Figures 2 and 3 for examples of the quality of photography of the mission.

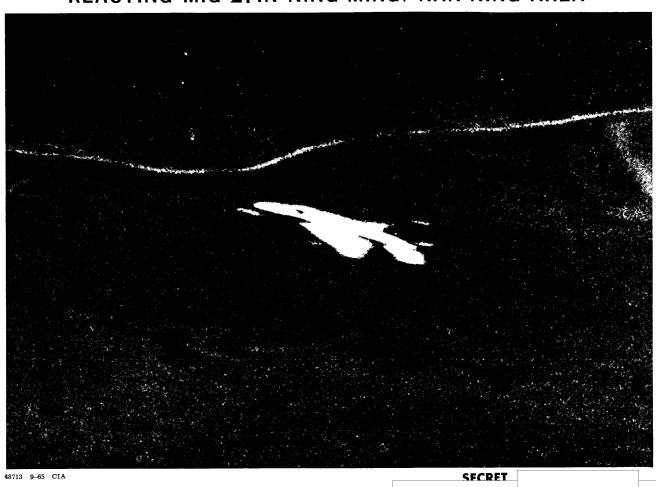
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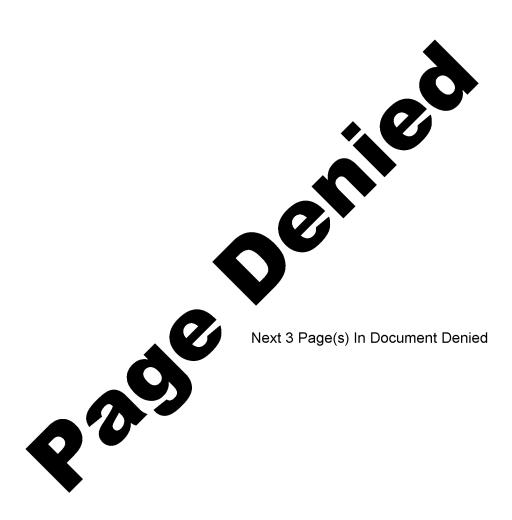
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REACTING MIG-21IN NING-MING/NAN-NING AREA





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Table 2

Radars Deployed in China and North Vietnam and Intercepted by Mission C455C

Early Warning Height Finder

MOON CONE ROCK CAKE

SCR-270

KNIFE REST B

CROSS SLOT AAA Fire Control

FIRE CAN

Ground Control Intercept

TOKEN

BIG MESH

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SOURCES

This preliminary technical evaluation of a U-2 Reconnaissance Mission flown over North Vietnam and Communist China on 24 August 1965 was developed for the 303 Committee by the following elements of the Directorate of Science and Technology:

Office of Scientific Intelligence Office of Special Activities Office of Elint

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